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St. Bartholomew's Hospital Journal,

OCTOBER, 1900.

"Æquam memento rebus in arduis
Servare mentem."—Horace, Book ii, Ode iii.

Reminiscences of the War in South Africa, being the Opening Address delivered before the Abernethian Society, October 11th, 1900.

By ANTHONY BOWLEY, F.R.C.S.

THIS seems a peculiarly appropriate date on which to speak of reminiscences of South Africa, for it is just one year to-day since the war in South Africa commenced, after the receipt by Great Britain of the only ultimatum ever sent to her by any country. The audacity of the Dutch Republics was the subject of very general comment, and it was difficult for Englishmen to understand by what possible hopes of success it could be

justified. No one here entertained the slightest doubt of the result of the war, and a cheap and easy victory was generally foretold when it was decided to send so large an army as that of 40,000 men. On the whole we certainly at that time despised our foe, and I think many of us would have been much surprised, as well as mortified, to find that they, for their part, despised us even more. Let me occupy your time for a few moments with this aspect of the subject, for to a large extent it explains how the Boers came to fight us.

I have spoken on this matter to various men who have spent their lives in the Dutch Republics, and they very justly say that the experience of the present generation of Boers largely justifies their contempt. They attacked and beat us at Majuba, and our troops then undoubtedly yielded to panic, and ran away. They had previously trapped and shot down a small force at Bronker's Spruit, and finally we yielded to their demands rather than fight to a finish. The natural conclusion was that we were afraid of the results, and that we had not enough troops to afford to lose more. Needless to say, our losses were exaggerated, and the great ignorance of the majority of the people left them quite satisfied that the Boers had defeated the whole British army, ridiculous as such an idea may seem to us. From that time forward the regular troops, or "rooibattjes," were literally despised, and then, when the colonial troopers of Jameson were also defeated and captured with practically no loss to the burghers, each Boer felt that he was a match for any number of British. This feeling was always most marked amongst the Transvaalers, for the more enlightened Free Staters were certainly not so arrogant, and undoubtedly treated our fellow-countrymen better than did their neighbours.

We can better enter into the feeling of the Transvaal Boers at the commencement of the war when we come to know what were their avowed intentions. They proposed to march straight to Durban, to occupy and annex Natal, and drive the English into the sea. That they entertained no doubt of their ability to do so is proved by the fact that

some of them arranged amongst themselves to celebrate their success by a ball in Durban on October 28th, for which purpose they provided themselves with dress clothes and spare cash. The latter was occasionally of more service to our men than to themselves, and one Tommy found himself the possessor of £70 as the result of fishing a dead Boer out of the Tugela.

A Boer commandant who was wounded at Talana Hill provided a still more striking example of the certainty of success entertained by the Transvaal executive as well as by the individual Boers. This man had been under the charge of one of our captured surgeons at Dundee, and, being grateful for his care, said, "If I can help you when you come to Durban I shall be very glad to do so, as I am going to be the Port Captain there." My friend expressed a mild scepticism, whereupon the commandant produced a document with his official appointment as Port Captain. He further explained that, though he did not know anything about ships, he had no doubt he should soon learn all that was necessary for his new career.

Such was the confidence of the Boers; let us see whether there was anything to justify it.

It is now, I suppose, common knowledge that for many years the Dutch Republics have been arming to oppose Great Britain, and it is generally believed in South Africa that they would have liked to postpone the struggle for another two years, so as to complete their arrangements, and arm the Colonial Dutch who sympathised with them. Events, however, marched too rapidly for them, and in the summer of 1899 they found themselves in a position in which they had to either yield to the just demands of this country, or show their hand and refuse all concessions. They decided on the latter course, and at the same time decided on declaring war before we could bring sufficient troops across the sea, and I heard in the Free State how arrangements for mobilisation and concentration were commenced in July, so that before the end of September large numbers of Boers had been massed on the Natal frontier, and also at Boshof, near Kimberley, and all sorts of warlike stores were collected at convenient places on the rail, and were augmented by large purchases in Europe. In the meantime President Kruger continued to hold us in play till preparations were complete for a sudden attack, and till the early rains of September should have provided the first spring grass needed for transport animals. It thus happened that at the end of September everything was nearly ready, and most fortunately for us all was not quite ready. It had been intended to declare war a fortnight earlier than October 12th, and in that case the struggle would have been commenced before the arrival of the 10,000 troops from India, so that beyond the troops under General Symonds in the north of Natal, and a garrison at Pietermaritzburg, there would have been nothing to oppose the Boer army. It must, indeed, be conceded

that the Boers were only too well justified, as events proved, in anticipating an easy conquest of Natal, for in spite of the arrival of the Indian troops we were shut up in Ladysmith, and despite the further arrival of additional reinforcements from England the Boer army came fully half way from the frontier to Durban. Had they been able to attack at the end of September, it is difficult to believe that they would have failed to reach Durban, with disastrous results to us. As it was, although the Indian troops were insufficient to roll back the tide of invasion, they were able to check it, so that Talana Hill, Elandslaagte, and Ladysmith effectively held the Boer armies in check till still further reinforcements rendered Natal safe.

Turn next to the position in Cape Colony. Here we were placed at even greater disadvantage had the Boers only known how to make the most of their opportunities. Here were even fewer troops near the frontier than in Natal, and only about 3000 in the whole colony; and, considering that the Boers would have had no difficulty in crossing the Orange River with 10,000 men, it is curious to notice how for two or three weeks they held back, and even then only advanced in small numbers and in a half-hearted manner. Had they boldly invaded the colony on October 12th they would have gathered force as they advanced, and, with their army constantly joined by fresh Colonial Dutch, could have over-run the whole of Cape Colony along the main line of railway, and have captured all our accumulated military stores at De Aar and Naauwpoort, and might possibly have reached Cape Town itself.

I have always found it difficult to get an adequate explanation of such neglect to take advantage of opportunities, but it is pretty generally said that the Free Staters were much more afraid of the possible consequences of war than were the Transvaalers, and were very disinclined to invade British territory until the news of Boer successes round Ladysmith, and the still more tempting successful looting in Natal, decided them to attack. It is true that the temptations to capture Mafeking and Kimberley delayed many, but the commandoes which besieged these were mainly composed of Transvaalers, and the Orange Free Staters were the men who were slow to begin.

But although the Boer leaders neglected many opportunities that never again occurred, we know only too well what many successes were theirs in the early days of the war; and these successes in their turn resulted in a still further extension of that confidence in victory to which I have already alluded. Thus, after the battle of Magersfontein many Boers came back to Bloemfontein and its neighbourhood and announced complacently and confidently that now the whole British army had been destroyed; and the curators of the Bloemfontein Museum—educated men—issued a circular to the Boer commandoes, which I read, asking the men not to forget their national museum, but to bring to it relics of the defeated English soldiers, so that future generations of

Boers might have evidence of how the British had been driven into the sea.

Of course as the war progressed all these illusions were rudely dispelled, in spite of the efforts of the Boer leaders to keep the rank and file in ignorance; and the very heavy losses sustained in the attack on Waggon Hill, outside Ladysmith, on January 6th, did more to shake the confidence of the enemy than all the fighting that preceded that event. They still, however, confidently expected that the town would fall into their hands, for the capture of Ladysmith was to be the tangible proof to all doubting rebels that the Boers could beat the English and turn them out of the country; and their failure in this respect not only prevented a further rising of the Colonial Dutch, but for the first time opened the eyes of many of the burghers to the possibilities and probabilities of defeat.

Of the victorious advance of Lord Roberts from Modder River to Bloemfontein I will say nothing; but from that time forward the Boer resistance was broken, and the ultimate issue was never again in doubt.

As to the number of the Boers who took the field against us there has, of course, been the widest possible difference of opinion, and whilst I will not pretend to settle the question, I should like to tell you what I heard myself. I have been told quite confidently that the whole Boer army did not number more than 30,000 men, and I have been informed with equal assurance that it was not less than 90,000, whilst some of the newspapers were of the opinion that the foreign legion alone numbered at least 10,000. The best piece of evidence I had was the number of the identification card of a Boer who was commandeered at Bloemfontein in February. It was 65,700, so that we may assume that there were at least that number of fighting men, excluding rebels; and, as this man was one of the last to be commandeered, we may further assume that there were not many more than this number. Our Intelligence Department has in this matter been very unjustly blamed, for I believe that its information was that the Boers numbered from 60,000 to 65,000, and that it also supplied a complete and correct list of the Boer artillery. With regard to the Foreign legion, I had some direct information from one of its Commandants, and, from his statements and from others, I feel sure it never numbered more than 2000 men. The said Commandant was a German, who was shot through the thigh near Thaba 'Nchu, and subsequently lost his leg. He had a very poor opinion of the foreign legion, and said that they were composed of "the scum of Europe," and were scoundrels and blackguards. I think he was fairly accurate in his estimate. The numbers of the Cape and Natal rebels were also very uncertain; but, after hearing the most different opinions, I think they must have amounted to about 4000 to 6000 men.

The Boer losses are as differently estimated as are the

Boer armies, and I will not pretend to give any figures. I think, however, they were really very heavy. The greatest loss in any one day was at Waggon Hill, where about 300 were killed, and another 400 to 600 wounded. They also lost heavily at Pieter's Hill, Elandslaagte, and Driefontein, as well as at Belmont, Modder River, and the siege of Mafeking. In the later stages of the war they lost many men in the numerous small engagements which marked the advance of the army to Pretoria, as well as round Thaba 'Nchu and De Wet's Dorp, and in the fighting in the Transvaal itself. The real total we shall never know.

As to sickness, it is certain that the Boers did not lose so heavily as we; but, on the other hand, their losses were by no means very slight. There was a great deal of dysentery at one time, and at Jacobsdal we found many sick Boers. Many died of what they vaguely called "the fever," and this was almost certainly enteric, from which, of course, they are not exempt; for it is well known that many of the Boer prisoners died of this disease at Simon's Town, and the percentage of recoveries amongst them was decidedly low. Why more of them do not die of illness in some form is certainly rather a mystery, for the ground at Colenso on which their camps had been pitched still smelt horribly when I visited it six months after they had left, and the habits of many of them were filthy to the last degree.

Of the Boer army itself, and of its commanders, very much that is contradictory has been written.

One fact is, that the Boer is neither so bad as some would make him out, nor so heroic as he is described by some of his Continental admirers. As fighting men they showed much of that stubbornness in defence which characterised their forefathers when the Hollanders, under William the Silent, were content to "die in the last ditch" rather than yield to the Spanish oppressor, and they held their position in silence at Colenso, Belmont, and elsewhere, under an artillery fire that was calculated to shake the nerves of even a veteran army. Their tenacity, however, was always to a large extent dependent on the fact that their retreat was secured if things became too hot for them, and the sight of a flank attack, or of the close approach of bayonets, always resulted in a retreat to their horses and a gallop to the next defensible position. They practically always declined battle in the open unless in overwhelming force, and they, as an army, completely lacked that disregard of death which in warfare has always made our own race such a formidable foe. Compare for a moment the behaviour of the two opposed armies when either of them was in face of an entrenched position. At Belmont, Modder River, Colenso, Driefontein, the British never hesitated to attack with a recklessness of consequences that was sometimes blame-worthy, and in every case they carried the positions, though not always at the first assault. Mark this: We never failed to ultimately take every position we attacked, at whatever

cost, and even though, as at Spion Kop, we had afterwards to abandon it.

Now consider the different behaviour of the Boers. At Mafeking, Kimberley, Wepener, Elands River, though in overwhelming force, they never were prepared for the necessary sacrifice of life required to take these places by direct attack or assault. Had they hardened their hearts and been prepared each man to be killed, if so be the position could be won, their success would have been assured; and although they did make one gallant attack on Waggon Hill and Caesar's Camp, here, again, their failure to capture these positions from an inferior force was due, not only to the extraordinary tenacity of our own troops, but to the fact that the several thousand burghers who were wanting to support their own men, already on the hill, never plucked up courage to send reinforcements across the open country under fire. Even when, as at Magersfontein, Colenso, and Lombard's Kop, they had hurled back our forces with heavy loss and temporary confusion, they lacked the initiative to turn a repulse into a defeat, and never seemed inclined to leave the safety of their own trenches and risk their lives to attain a great victory. No campaign was ever won by such tactics, and they have paid the penalty.

Of the Boer Generals I will say but little. They proved themselves generally capable men, though with the same lack of initiative in attack which characterises their armies. They thoroughly understood how to make the best use of their knowledge of their own land and were, as a rule, wisely placed in those parts of the country which each knew best. They had the inherent ability of recognising the best positions for successful defence, and were always quick to seize upon points of vantage. It is quite an error to suppose that the Boer armies were commanded by foreigners; this was certainly not the case. They had one or two expert artillerymen, sent by the Creuzot firm and other gun-manufacturers; but the guns were commanded and worked by the Boers, and that to the surprise and admiration of all beholders.

The Boer generals as a whole certainly played the great game of war according to its recognised rules; and there are plenty of our troops, both officers and men, who bear willing testimony to the behaviour of Joubert, Delarey, Botha, De Wet, and many others. Many of the wounded I have seen were in the hands of the Boer troops for some time, some of them for weeks or months, and almost all of them had been kindly treated and well cared for. It is, however, true that some of the generals certainly abused the use of the Red Cross, and utilised ambulances to conceal guns and ammunition, and many burghers without doubt kept Red Cross armlets in their pockets so that, if in danger of captivity, they could throw aside their rifles and cartridges and appear as hospital orderlies.

As to using the white flag in a treacherous way, I believe

that no Boer commander was ever guilty; but it is, of course, certain that on very many occasions it was so used by the Boer troops, when it seemed safe to employ it, for the Boer, who is naturally deceitful and tricky, no doubt looked upon the trapping of some unwary soldiers as a very meritorious act, and would in all probability be ready to boast of his success, and would be looked upon by many of his countrymen as a clever fellow; but for this their generals could not justly be blamed.

I would now ask you to turn your attention from the Boers to our own army, which was far the largest that has ever left our shores. The transport of the troops and their disembarkation went on day after day with the regularity and precision of a machine, and thousands of men passed northwards in a constant stream during January and the greater part of February. The weather was excessively hot, and the further north the hotter it became. I do not think the men minded it a bit. They were always in the best of spirits, ready to cheer every passing train, and exchanging chaff with the men who guarded every yard of the hundreds of miles that lay between the Cape and the frontier. I regret to say that much of Cape Colony was virtually the enemy's country, and that many attempts were made to destroy the line and to derail trains with troops, all happily without effect; but many thousand troops were required to obtain this result. It took about four days to get troops as far as De Aar, so that arrangements had to be made for feeding them at regular intervals at wayside stations, and abundance of food was everywhere collected and rapidly distributed at places where, only a few weeks before, you could not have fed half a dozen people. I am sure that the difficulty of sending up troops, stores, horses, guns, ammunition, etc., along a single line of railway, is even now not the least appreciated by many, even by those who have been at the Cape. Remember this. Any individual train of stores could only accomplish about three or four journeys between Cape Town and Bloemfontein in a month. Here was the great difference as compared with Natal, for Buller's camp at Chieveley was only about 150 miles distant from Durban, and a train could get there and unload and return in a day. Then the enormous bulk of the hay, and the service wagons, and the number of trucks required for horses, combined to make it difficult to supply sufficient trucks, whilst the steep gradients prevented engines from taking any long trains. Fresh engines and trucks could not be bought ready made in any part of the world, for the gauge of the Cape railways is different from that of any other line. In spite, however, of all these obstacles and difficulties, everything went right, and troops, horses, and stores passed from the sea to the battle in a steady stream.

But besides the transport by sea and rail, there yet remains to mention the horses, mules, and oxen, and the transport by road. Most of the horses and mules were imported, for those in the country were all too few. They

came from the uttermost parts of the earth, and were of all sorts and sizes. They travelled best in cattle ships, where they were not crowded in small boxes, and could be exercised in calm weather. Most of them were stiff and with swollen legs when they disembarked, and then had to spend one or more days in railway trucks before they got properly on land again. At Stellenbosch, near Cape Town, was the first of the remount depôts, and at Durban and the other ports were similar establishments, as well as higher up country, *e.g.* at Naauwpoort and Springfontein, and at Pietermaritzburg and Mooi River. At such places the horses were kept in large camps, and exercised and fed for several weeks before they were in condition to be of any use for hard work, and then they were sent up as occasion required. These remount depôts were interesting and picturesque places, and there were often as many as 4000 horses or more at one of them. Each was superintended by several officers, and under them were a motley crowd of natives from India and from South Africa, in dresses of all sorts and kinds, and talking the strangest mixtures of languages. In the earliest part of the war the horses at these depôts were mostly English or Argentine, the latter being short thick horses, just like those depicted in Roman chariots, and quite unmistakable. Almost all the battery horses, and those used for wagons, etc., came out of the London and other omnibuses, and none did better than these, or stood hard work so well. Later came horses of a good class from Canada and Australia, smaller horses from India, and sturdy Burmese ponies so small that the rider's feet nearly touched the ground on either side, and well-bred looking horses from Hungary, and Basuto ponies, thickly built, and characterised by their small feet and low withers, and no doubt others besides. Never was such a collection of horseflesh. It is sad to recall how many of them died, and the reasons why they suffered so much more than the Boer ponies are not difficult to find. In the first place, they had on the whole much harder work in the hottest weather than fell to the lot of any of the Boer ponies. When French marched to the relief of Kimberley it was on the very hottest day of the year; the ground was very heavy and sandy, and for more than thirty miles between the Riet and the Modder rivers there was no water. On that day, February 13th, in one battery alone eighteen horses died, and in one cavalry regiment over sixty, and this more from the heat and want of water than from the mere work. My own horse was one of the comparatively few who still survived when our troops reached Bloemfontein. Next as a cause for our horses knocking up came the inevitable effects of the long voyage and the change of climate and food. It is estimated in South Africa that it takes at least six months to acclimatise a horse when imported there, but ours had frequently to be put in work within a few weeks of landing. Then came the unavoidable difficulty that horses which left England in

our spring or summer arrived in Africa with their summer coats in the middle of the Boer winter, and had to stand out in the open, often with many degrees of frost, all night, so that in the early morning they were often stiff and miserable. The food did not suit all of them, and in wide-reaching cavalry marches food was often very scarce, whilst after Paardeberg and the loss of our convoy the horses were nearly starved. Finally, the horses were called upon to carry great weights, for the kit and equipment of a cavalry soldier weighs from 4 to 6 stone, and many of them were not light riders. The riding weight of the cavalry was from 17 to 19 stone. From all these causes the mortality amongst the horses was very high, and the roads were marked with their bodies wherever our troops had marched. It must not, however, be supposed that the horses were neglected. Such was far from being the case. Efficient veterinary surgeons were supplied, and sick lines and convalescent camps were established. The best known of the latter was at Fischer's Farm, six miles from the Portland Hospital at Bloemfontein, and here some thousands of sick or hurt horses were sent during the months of April, May, and June. More than a thousand had to be shot, but many were either got fit again and returned to the front, or else were sent to the colony to be sold to the farmers. We were all of us at Fischer's farm many times, and it was always a pleasure to see how well everything was done, and what care was taken of the horses that were sent from the front. It will give you some idea of the loss of horses if I remind you that it is estimated that our mounted troops here had at least three horses each on an average. In one cavalry regiment I know of only two of the original horses remain, and one of these has been wounded six times and is going strong. He is a grey horse, and was perhaps more shot at for that cause, as grey horses show up more plainly than dark coloured animals. For this reason many grey horses were dyed "khaki colour," the whole of the "Scots Greys" being thus altered by the application to their coats of strong Condyl's fluid. It produced the desired colour at the time, but the troubles of horses and of human beings were in this respect alike. Once they took to dyeing their hair, they had to go on with it and repeat the process, for the dye was constantly wearing off, and the grey hair beneath insisted on growing up.

Almost as important as the horses were the oxen and the mules. These did all the wagon work of the commissariat and transport departments, horses being reserved for more purely military purposes. The ordinary ox wagon is about sixteen feet in length, and is built mainly of large and heavy pieces of wood, very little iron being employed in its construction. It is both very heavy and very strong, and is capable of carrying several tons; some of them have springs, but most are springless. Such a wagon when loaded requires a team of sixteen or more oxen, for the roads are merely tracks, and are often deep with mud or dust, and

the banks of the "drifts," or fords across streams and water-courses, are often exceedingly steep and stony. In some such places, indeed, sixteen oxen are all too few, and it is quite a common thing to use double teams of thirty-two to pull a wagon over a difficult place. The oxen are guided by a boy leading the first pair, whilst another Kaffir, armed with a whip like a salmon rod, both guides the rest of the team and keeps them up to their work; no reins are used.

The custom is to let the oxen graze by day, and to begin their journey a little before sunset, as in this way they both feed better and escape the hottest part of the day. Their ordinary pace is two and a half to three miles an hour; but for short distances they can travel much faster than this. It was by these oxen and wagons that the greater part of all stores were sent to the front and to the camps, and several thousands must have been in use. The oxen themselves are large animals with long spreading horns, and each of them is known by name, and has his place in the team. The Kaffirs know their own oxen amongst a thousand others, and it is quite extraordinary to see how quickly they recognise their own animals in such a huge herd, and get them into their places. It is significant of the estimation in which our countrymen were held in the Transvaal and Free State before this war to learn that the worst ox in the team, and the one which was most beaten, was commonly named "the Englishman."

The cost to the army of a team or "span" of sixteen oxen with an ox-wagon and two Kaffirs was either £2 5s. or £2 10s. a day: and it will help you to realise the cost of a war when I tell you that the ox transport alone for the heavy howitzers of the siege train was at the rate of £30,000 a year for four guns. I was told that the little bill which had to be paid to the contractor for the loss of the convoy of 116 wagons near the Riet River on the march to Paardeberg was £66,000; and the raids of the enterprising De Wet on Rudeval station, the railway line, and our convoys must have cost us several hundred thousands. I only wonder that the war bill is no larger than seventy millions at present.

There is really a great deal more that might be said about the transport service, but I must pass to other matters. Of the Commissariat arrangements it is impossible to speak too highly. It is quite certain that no army was ever so well supplied with food. Stores of every sort and kind came in abundance from home, and were pushed to various railway centres towards the front. We were almost entirely dependent on rations ourselves, the food was excellent, and plenty of fresh meat was generally obtainable, as well as good supplies of vegetables nearer to Cape Town. The army bakeries supplied good bread as a rule, and on the march the troops had biscuits instead of bread. They looked rather like dog-biscuits, but personally I liked them, and thought them excellent. It is, of course, the case that on many occasions our men were very short of food, but

this was practically always due to the action of the enemy in destroying bridges or railway lines, or in capturing or threatening the line of march of convoys. The rations for the sick and wounded in hospital were also excellent, and would compare favourably with the food at most London hospitals; but here, again, the action of the enemy often made it difficult to obtain at the front the rations and stores which were in abundance at the base.

I have so far put before you, as well as the limits of my time will permit, a few of the salient points which seem to me of interest in connection with the transport and commissariat departments, and will now turn for a brief space to the sick and wounded, and to those who were called upon to take care of and make provision for them. Perhaps the simplest thing would be for me to read you an extract from the evidence I gave before the Royal Commission, when at Cape Town, as it will serve to remind you of the conditions created by war. Here is the extract:

"THE WORK OF THE R.A.M.C."

"I am very glad of the opportunity of expressing my unstinted admiration of the R.A.M.C. From the highest to the lowest they have striven to do their utmost for the sick and wounded. The general arrangements have been excellent, and much of the work has been of the most arduous description. It is difficult now to realise the conditions under which much of the work had to be performed some months ago. A blazing sun, myriads of flies, clouds of dust, with occasional tremendous rainstorms, combined to make medical and surgical work most trying; and it must also be remembered that those who worked in the hospitals were constantly going sick, and that the proportion of illness amongst them was very great. It is easy enough to criticise and to pick holes, but it has seemed to me that it is really difficult to realise the forethought and organisation, and the personal labour and anxiety which must have been required to treat thousands of men widely scattered over an immense country with few railroads, and to maintain large hospitals in easily accessible places. Such excellent results could hardly have been anticipated as have actually been realised."

Let me give you one remarkable example of energy and promptitude in connection with the R.A.M.C.

Just before the battle of Colenso Colonel Gallwey wired to Major McCormack, at Durban, that a large number of stretcher-bearers were required at once. This wire was received at 11 a.m. By one o'clock placards signed by the Mayor were displayed throughout the town inviting all volunteers to come to the Town Hall at 3 p.m.; and before 8 p.m. that night 850 men had been medically examined, given kit, and sent off by train. Before next day was over this number had been increased to 1500, and many of these men actually arrived at Colenso whilst the battle was in pro-

gress, and went straight from the train to the battlefield. It would be hard to beat this record.

* With regard to the state of affairs at Bloemfontein, of which so much has been written, I will first say this. It is most undoubtedly true that there was much sickness and suffering, that the field hospitals were overcrowded, that at first the surgeons were all too few, and hospital equipment indifferent; but it does not necessarily follow that the medical department or anyone else was to blame, for this was a time of war, and war in an enemy's country, and war which had for the time left our army isolated and its lines of communication cut. Let us point to a few considerations which may prevent a too hasty judgment.

In the first place, it must be remembered that the first duty of an army is to defeat its enemies, and that in the attainment of this end an immense amount of suffering is likely to be entailed. To this object all else is subjected, and necessarily the transport and feeding of troops, the supply of ammunition, and the maintenance of horses and baggage animals have the precedence. To maintain an army with a single railway line is at best a difficult task, and to maintain an army as large as ours in South Africa, and to keep open at the same time more than 2000 miles of lines of communications, is a task which has never, I am told, been equalled.

In the second place, it must be remembered that the question of the movements of large hospitals to the front does not rest with the Royal Army Medical Corps alone; and that, on the other hand, nothing can be moved without the approval and orders of the Chief of Staff or of the General Officer in Command.

It necessarily follows that before one can decide whether anyone is to blame for the undoubted sufferings of our troops, we must know what were the military exigencies, and whether it was possible to move up hospitals and their equipment when there were urgent military needs to consider. It is also evident that before blame can be attached to those in charge of the medical arrangements, it must be shown that they were not ready or able to deal with these difficulties, and that the failure to supply hospitals and their equipment was not due to military exigencies, but to neglect of the necessary and obvious preparations. Only a full knowledge of the facts can enable unbiassed observers to form a just judgment, and I will merely content myself with pointing out that Bloemfontein itself was quite unable to supply anything at all to hospitals or troops. It had been practically cleared out, and for weeks after our troops arrived it was impossible to get into store more than a single day's rations for our army with the aid of the railway and the collection of stores and animals for a distance of many miles. The country was so swept of food supplies

that the main reason the Boers never appeared in force to the west of Bloemfontein after we occupied the town was that there was no food for them or their horses in all that district. As far as Bloemfontein is concerned, it appears to me that the main question is, "Was the best use made of the railway, and were the hospitals, staffs, and stores ready to be utilised, or were necessary preparations neglected?" It is quite beside the mark to say that because there was undoubted suffering there was certainly someone to blame, though it may be admitted at once that the Boers were more to blame than anyone else, because they blew up the bridges and cut off our supplies.

The Commission, of which our senior physician is so important a member, will ere long be able to furnish more precise information, and I do not propose to in any way anticipate their report. Meantime, however, I have no hesitation in expressing my opinion of the people who seemed to consider that the military hospitals of South Africa were places where they could satisfy their idle curiosity as to war, and, being absolutely ignorant of everything concerning hospitals, nevertheless took themselves very seriously as critics. There were plenty such, and whilst some of them were content to spread scandalous statements in conversation only, others have gone further, and have traduced wholesale in print the surgeons, orderlies, and nurses. Too much attention has already been paid to them in England. If you knew the personal character of some of these people, whose real object is generally self-advertisement and, not the genuine desire to make things better than they are, you would think no more of what some of them have written than we did in South Africa.

As far as wounds are concerned, you will, of course, not expect me to go into details of cases; but it may be stated in general terms that the very large majority of the wounds were caused by Mauser bullets, and that only a small proportion were caused by other bullets or by shells. I cannot speak of the wounded in the Boer army from personal knowledge of large numbers, but nearly all of their wounded who came under my notice had been hit by Lee-Netford bullets, which very closely resemble the Mauser bullets and cause similar wounds.

I have already written of these wounds in our *Hospital Journal*, and you have also had plenty of opportunities of reading about them elsewhere, so I will now content myself with saying that all such bullets cause very small wounds in the soft tissues, and that these rapidly close after the passage of the bullet in many instances, so that not only is very slight damage caused, but wounds heal very rapidly.

As to the so-called "explosive" bullets, there were but very few of them in use in the early days of the war, but later on they were much more resorted to, though the vast majority of the wounds were not inflicted by them. None of these bullets that I have ever seen were really "explo-

* The four following paragraphs are from an article by myself in the *Monthly Review*.

sive" in the proper sense of the term, *i.e.* none of them contained an explosive substance to burst the bullet, as the bursting charge of a shell explodes a shell case. The difference between them and the bullet commonly used in the Mauser and Lee Metford rifles was this. In these latter the lead of the bullet is contained within a hard casing of nickel steel, so that the soft lead does not expand on meeting with resistance. In the "explosive" bullets, which ought to be called "expanding" bullets, this hard case is incomplete, so that the lead can bulge through the aperture and spread out into a larger mass on striking a resisting object, such as a bone. Such bullets are in use all over the world for sporting purposes, and are extensively used for game-shooting in Africa. My friend and colleague Mr. Wallace, whilst attached to the 9th Division, collected a large variety of these expanding bullets when the Boers evacuated Winberg, and has very kindly sent them here this evening.

Of shell wounds I have but little to say. We saw but few of them, and I think they were more numerous in Natal than in Cape Colony and the Free State. In general terms, the wounds caused by shell fragments may be said to resemble the lacerated wounds we see in London hospitals, which are caused by machinery of different kinds, and necessarily they vary immensely, according to the size of the fragment which inflicts the injury.

All shells fall into one of two classes:—first, shrapnel; second, common shell. The shrapnel shell consists of a metal case containing round bullets of various sizes, which are packed inside in different ways. It is exploded whilst in the air by a charge, which blows off the cap or head of the shell and then the contained bullets are scattered by the momentum of the shell itself. Each shell contains from 140 bullets to 200 or more. Shrapnel shell is seldom made in sizes larger than 15 lbs.

The common shell is made in all sizes, from the one pound, "Pom-pom," to shells of several hundred pounds weight. They are hollow, conical masses of metal, and are ordinarily exploded by a contact fuse, which detonates the charge of explosive in the hollow of the shell when the latter strikes the ground. This explosive may be gun cotton, cordite, or lyddite, and, the charge being a very large one, the danger of such shells is from the fragments of the metal shell case itself, which is shattered by the explosive force, and scattered in all directions. Some of these fragments of large shells may weigh ten or a dozen pounds or more, and may be large enough to tear a limb off, or to decapitate a man.

I think there can be no doubt that of men hit by shells a very much larger proportion are killed than of those hit by bullets, and very erroneous conclusions may be drawn if we estimate the damage done by shell fire according to the wounded who come under treatment. There may be few wounded to treat, though not a few men may be killed.

With regard to the effect of our lyddite shells, I think there is no doubt that in the early days of the war they proved very disappointing, and the reason for this given me by an artillery officer is worth mentioning. He said that he attributed the failure to the fact that the shells were all fused for naval use, and were intended to penetrate the armour of a ship before bursting, the result being that they sometimes did not burst at all when striking on the soft earth, or that they so buried themselves before bursting that they did little harm.

Of the British Army as a fighting machine it is quite unnecessary for me to speak at all, for everyone is now aware of the gallant behaviour of all ranks, and of the patience, and determination, and endurance, which were quite as valuable qualities as mere gallantry. Let me, however, point to the opinion of others who were not Englishmen. I had the opportunity of speaking with Albrecht, the commander of the Free State artillery, after he was captured at Paardeberg, and in discussing the qualities of our troops he said, "Your infantry are splendid fellows, and your artillery is magnificent. The only fault is that they are too brave." And I thought that this was very excellent testimony from one who has proved himself a brave man in the field.

The military *attachés* on some occasions were also most outspoken, as you may learn from what one of them said, whose opinion was best worth having. After discussing the qualities of the various arms, he summed up his opinion as follows:—"I shall always say there is no other army to compare with the British. For courage, dash, staying power, discipline, and all that makes for success with an army, there is no other like it;" whilst on another occasion a more emotional foreigner said, "Ah, your Tommy is a splendid man; he march on always, he never get tired, he fight all day; I love him like a brother," and repeating, "I love him like a brother," he fell on an adjacent Tommy and kissed him on both cheeks; but history has not recorded what Tommy said.

Of the endurance and marching qualities of our men it would, indeed, be impossible to speak too highly. Look at the record of the Guards Brigade. They fought and marched, nearly a year ago, from Orange River station to Modder River; then, at a later period, from Modder River and Paardeberg to Bloemfontein, fighting the battle of Driefontein *en route*. Thence they marched and fought to Pretoria, 300 miles away, and then did nearly another 300 miles to near Komati Poort. On one occasion they did thirty-eight miles in twenty-eight hours; and, after fighting and marching near Dewetsdorp in May, fourteen Grenadiers carried a sergeant with a fractured thigh on a stretcher forty-two miles to the Portland Hospital. When Tucker's division was pursuing Cronjé, his troops marched thirty-four miles in twenty-four hours, under a blazing sun, and although from time to time men and officers fell out

exhausted, and had to get into one of the baggage-wagons, they insisted on rejoining the march as soon as they could again get along. Again, on the advance from Kroonstadt to the Vaal our whole army marched ninety miles in six days, each man, with his rifle, rounds of cartridges, bedding, and canteen, carrying 41 lbs. Hear what the *Times* correspondent justly said of this:—"When I watched the infantry crossing the Vaal this morning, laughing, shaking each other by the hand at the birth of another invasion, I realised that, all said and done, the British infantry, as it ever has been, is the stay of the empire." The French *attaché* could not disguise his admiration, and said:—"The marvel is, you can march them at any hour of the day, all day, and anywhere, and yet they do not tire. We would never think of treating our infantry as you do yours."

So much for the marching power of our men, though many other examples might be adduced; and then consider their heroic stubbornness when in difficulties. Every one knows the details of the sieges of Ladysmith, Kimberley, and Mafeking, so of them I will say nothing. But let me remind you of what happened at Wepener. Here we had about 1500 men surrounded by 5000 Boers, with a numerous artillery. The position was one almost impossible to defend; shelter from pouring rain and sun there was none; the trenches were at times waist-deep in water, and the open ground was so exposed that no man could leave the trenches all day, and if wounded, had to wait till night-fall for aid. Not only did our men, most of whom were Colonials, and under a colonial officer, never dream of surrender, but many of them, after being wounded, insisted on returning to the fighting line. One trooper of the Scouts was shot through the cheek and neck, the bullet then passing through his chest and out at his back; yet he reported himself for duty on the tenth day, and returned to the trenches. On another occasion six men volunteered to carry ammunition across the open to men who had come to the end of their cartridges, and were in great peril. Of the six men five were shot down, more or less severely wounded, but the ammunition was brought in, and the position was saved. No wonder that after seventeen days of siege and assault the Boers gave up Wepener as too hard a nut, after losing 500 men killed and wounded.

The defence of Wepener was, indeed, one of the most gallant affairs in the war, and was only equalled, in my opinion, by the equally gallant behaviour of the Australians under Colonel Hore at Elands River, where, exposed to the fire of an overpowering artillery, and surrounded and outnumbered many times by Boers, they held their own for three days in the open, lost a fifth of their men killed and wounded, and nearly all their horses, but saved the convoy trusted to them, and were finally rescued. The defence of both Wepener and Elands River showed that the colonial troops were as stubborn in defence as they had shown themselves gallant in attack, for from the

earliest days of the war they had always done well in attack.

One of the first opportunities which the South African Colonials had for distinguishing themselves was afforded at the battle of Elandslaagte, where the Imperial Light Horse showed to the world at large, and the Boers in particular, that the outlanders of Johannesburg comprised men who were second to none in courage. They stormed the kopjes side by side with our own infantry, and lost both their own colonel and many others; but, on the other hand, they gained at once the recognition of the whole army as men fit to fight beside any troops, and one of General French's aides-de-camp who was present said to me, "I tell you they are the bravest men I ever saw—quite the bravest. They raced our own infantry to get up to the Boer positions, and never seemed to care for bullets or to mind being shot."

Only a few weeks later the New Zealanders had their opportunity and took it, near Colesberg. A company of the Yorkshire Regiment held the point of a long hill with steep sides, and up this in the dusk of the morning several hundred Boers crept. They reached the summit unobserved, and then, rushing up to the wall of stones our men had built, put their rifles over it and fired into the midst of the Yorkshires. Down went twenty-five out of about seventy men at once, the colour-sergeant and five men killed, and others and the captain (afterwards my patient and informant) wounded, and no officer left to command. The camp of the New Zealanders was a couple of hundred yards further back. Their officer at once realised the danger, and, calling on his men to fix bayonets and charge, he caught up with him the rest of the Yorkshires, headed by a corporal, and swept the Boers over the hill edge, with a loss to them of twenty dead left on our hill, and many more killed or wounded before they escaped beyond range. The kopje is known as New Zealand Hill, but the young officer who led the charge now lies buried in the Free State.

I must not, however, go on giving you more examples of the soldierly qualities of our infantry, but I should like to refer very briefly to our gunners. None of our troops have done better than this branch of the Service, and over and over again they have saved the situation when things looked very bad. Take, for example, Magersfontein, where two batteries of horse artillery supporting the Guards Brigade alone prevented further disaster. Exposed in the open to both artillery and rifle fire they fought their guns, with heavy loss to men and horses, from early dawn at 4 a.m. till late afternoon. They were the admiration of all the troops, and one of our officers said to me afterwards, "They saved us all. I'll take off my hat to G Battery for the rest of my life." This, of course, was only an isolated instance; but the gallantry of Q Battery at Koorn Spruit, and the splendid courage shown in the attempt to save our guns at Colenso, well indicate that there were plenty of other occasions as well to which I might easily allude did time

permit. As to the guns themselves, you no doubt have seen innumerable letters from all sorts of people to demonstrate that the Boer artillery was much better than our own, and made better practice, and that our own guns were obsolete and nearly useless. There was never greater rubbish written. The correspondents seemed generally oblivious of the fact that a hundred-pounder always carries further than a light field gun, and always will; but if you compare heavy guns with heavy guns, and field guns with field guns, then the balance is on our side. It is true that the Boers had the Vickers-Maxim batteries, or, as we always called them, "Pom-poms," and that we did not get any till late in the war. But I would remind you that it is still a very open question with experienced men, who have both used these guns and fought against them, whether they are much good. They take nearly as much transport as a twelve-pounder, and the little one-pound shells they throw have so small a bursting charge that they cover a very small area, and are more like exaggerated bullets than shells. Considering the number of them used they hit very few men.

And now the time at my disposal requires that I should bring this address to a close, though not for lack of more to tell, for, truth to say, of reminiscences of South Africa I have no end, though many are too purely personal to be of interest to others. I must, however, say a very few words in recognition of the universal kindness and consideration with which my colleagues and myself were treated by all branches of the Service. A jealous medical corps might easily have been inclined to resent the intrusion of a civilian hospital, but there was actually no sort of feeling of this kind. On the contrary, we remained throughout our stay in Africa on the most friendly terms possible with army surgeons of every rank, and returned feeling that we left many friends behind.

At Bloemfontein we were in the midst of a large camp, and, partly owing to the very numerous officers we admitted, we were shortly acquainted with men in every branch of the Service. From the generals downwards they did their best to make us feel at home, and they fully succeeded in doing so. The tone of the whole army was admirable; officers and men alike did their duty, and put a good face on difficulties and disagreeables, and when we had a band and football match on a Saturday afternoon, and the Portland Hospital was the recognised rendezvous for our numerous acquaintances, it would have been difficult to find elsewhere a more genial and cheery assemblage.

You will gather from what I have said that I am a whole-hearted admirer of our army. I do not know that I have ever been anything else, but if I had been my experiences at the seat of war would have turned the scale. I am not so foolish as to think that everything in the army is perfect, or that it is not in need of reforms. I suppose there never was, and never can be, a perfect army, for it is composed of

individuals many of whom are by no means perfect. But there is infinitely more to admire than there is to criticise, and it must be remembered in reading the newspaper effusions of amateur critics that even a fool can find fault, though it needs a wise man to allot praise.

For myself, I can only say, in conclusion, that I take a legitimate pride in the fact that I have taken my place and acted my part as a unit in an army of which our nation is justly proud, and that amongst the most pleasant reminiscences of my life will be my reminiscences of South Africa during the War.

Two Cases of Tetany.

By W. N. SODEN, M.D.



THE two following cases, which have recently come under my notice, will, I think, interest some of your readers.

On September 1st, at 2 p.m., I was called to see Mrs. A—, æt. 23, whom I was engaged to attend at her fourth confinement. The pains were irregular, and almost entirely abdominal, without intervals of complete rest. The abdomen when examined revealed nothing abnormal, except that there was a good deal of flatulence. She had been awake with similar pains all the previous night, and had refused all food as she felt sick. The os would admit two fingers, but the head had not engaged in the brim. I ordered her an egg and milk with two teaspoonfuls of brandy, and left her. I returned again in the evening and found her in the same condition, the head not having advanced, and as she was tired out with the useless pains, and could take no nourishment, the egg and milk having been vomited unaltered, and her pulse having much increased in frequency, I ruptured the membranes, and after a short interval put on the forceps and delivered her without any difficulty of a full-term living child. She seemed much relieved, and was apparently better, there being no marked abdominal distension when the binder was put on. I gave her a mixture of ergot, nepenthe and spirits of ammonia to relieve after-pains, and left her at about 9 p.m.

At 2 a.m. I was called up to see her as "she had gone quite stiff." I found her lying on her back, with rapid and very laboured breathing, while her hands showed a condition of tetany so typical that it would have exactly answered to the text-book description (a peculiarity I have learned to find somewhat exceptional in general practice). She complained of the cramps in her arms and legs, and of the great difficulty in breathing. Her face was fixed and anxious, with eyes staring; the heart sounds could not be distinguished, nor the pulse felt at the wrist, and her nails were blue. This I put down to the terribly laboured breathing, which was accounted for immediately on examining the abdomen, which was as large as before delivery, the upper rather than the lower part being prominent. On percussion the stomach proved to be distended with flatulence (the bowels less so) pressing upwards against the diaphragm. The tetany, I confess, I was unable at the time to account for. I gave her a mixture containing bismuth, strychnine, alkalies, and carminatives, and ordered hot fomentations to the abdomen, and an enema containing assafoetida. In the morning her condition was but little improved; the enema had resulted in nothing but the passing of a little flatus, the stomach being more distended than before, reaching from the lower border of the fifth rib in the nipple line downwards to the level of the anterior superior spine of the ilium, and the breathing was still terribly laboured. I passed a stomach tube, and drew off between three and four pints of a sour greenish fluid, and washed out with warm water, but very little flatulence escaping at the same time. This relieved her but little, and the dyspnoea increasing she died at 2 p.m., eighteen hours after confinement, with all the symptoms of asphyxia, her temperature not having risen above normal.

On September 7th, nine days after the previous case, I received an urgent message to see Mrs. S—, æt. 34, a Jewess, and therefore neurotic, who, after an attack of abdominal pain and much vomiting,

which considerably alarmed her, suddenly was seized with cramp in the hands and fore-arms. When I saw her the tetany, for such it was, as typical as in the previous case, had partially passed off. The previous case being vividly in my mind, I anxiously examined the abdomen, but found no more distension of the stomach than is usual in such gastric cases, the stomach resonance not reaching lower than one inch above the umbilicus, and there being no dyspnoea and no rise of temperature. Regarding the tetany in this case to be rather a neurosis than due to absorption of poisonous material from the stomach, I gave a good prognosis, and prescribed bismuth with bromide and a saline purge, and small quantities of liquid nourishment at intervals. The tetany passed off in about six hours from its onset, and next day she was practically well. She had previously suffered considerably from indigestion, and had just had her period.

The contrast between these two cases is striking, as also is the coincidence of seeing again so soon a case presenting the peculiar condition of tetany associated with gastric distension, and yet differing so greatly in severity.

The first case I look upon as acute paralytic dilatation of the stomach, the cause of which, so far as one is able to assign a cause, was probably exhaustion due to the want of nourishment and sleep, together with that consequent on the somewhat prolonged labour, in a woman who had previously suffered considerably with indigestion and flatulence.

When one comes to consider the cause of the tetany, as far as I could find, after the necessary reference, it is generally supposed to be due to the irritation of the nerve centres of certain groups of muscles by some unknown poison or toxin produced in the process of fermentation of the contents of the stomach.

In the second case, occurring, as it did, in a woman of marked neurotic temperament, it is difficult to tell how far the tetany was merely an hysterical manifestation, and how far it was due to absorption from the stomach, which notwithstanding the vomiting was considerably distended with gas. The vomiting shows that there was no paralysis, and it emptied the stomach of its contents, preventing further absorption of toxins, which would, presumably, if retained, have kept up the tetany.

I report these cases partly on the grounds of their rarity, and partly in the hope of hearing other opinions and criticisms on them.

A Case of Suppurating Hydatid Cyst of the Liver, with Complications.

By F. A. BAINBRIDGE, M.B.



G—, æt. 23, was admitted to Faith Ward suffering from abdominal pain.

The patient gave a history of a number of attacks of epigastric pain, accompanied by vomiting and constipation, lasting several hours, and occasionally followed by transient jaundice; the pain extended into the back and between the shoulders, but never downwards towards the thigh. The first attack occurred nine months before admission to the hospital. There was no history of cough, expectoration, or dyspnoea.

On admission the patient looked sallow, and had rather a "muddy" complexion, but was not jaundiced. She had an intermittent temperature ranging from 99°–103° daily. Respiration (24–28) quiet and easy. Pulse 112, soft.

Chest.—On percussion of the right side of the chest, the line of dulness was found to begin at the fourth rib in the nipple line, seventh rib in mid-axillary line, and ninth rib behind. The air entry all over the right lung was poorer than over the left side, and at the right base expiration was prolonged, and the voice sounds increased. The heart was normal in all respects.

The liver was just palpable under the costal margin, and there was slight tenderness in the region of the gall-bladder.

The urine contained a trace of albumen.

An empyema was diagnosed, and pus withdrawn by an exploring needle.

On the following day the seventh rib was resected in the axillary line; with the finger a mass was felt bulging towards the wound.

A director was pushed into this mass, which was at first supposed to be a bulging empyema, and pus was found. As soon as the abscess had been fully opened a large quantity of yellow pus containing hydatid cysts poured out.

Further examination showed that a hydatid cyst of the liver had been opened through the pleura; both the liver and lung were adherent to the diaphragm, and a good deal of pus escaped into the pleural cavity. After some consideration the pleural cavity was thoroughly flushed with 1–8000 biniodide of mercury until the fluid came back clear. The pleural cavity was closed by sutures, and completely shut off from the liver, abscess, and the wound. The abscess was drained, and the wound closed and dressed.

The patient's temperature fell after the operation, became normal four days later, and has not risen since then. On the day following the operation the patient's respiration and pulse became very rapid for a few hours, but she had no cough. The discharge from the abscess, though deeply bile-stained, is rapidly diminishing, and the patient is on the high road to recovery, and the right lung appears to be normal.

Apart from the diagnosis, the main interest of this case lies in the fact that no empyema followed the operation, although a considerable amount of pus escaped into the pleural cavity; this satisfactory result was doubtless due to the thorough manner in which the pleural cavity was washed out during the operation. Irrigation of the pleura is a practice which has been much deprecated on the ground that sudden death is apt to occur. But when the lungs and heart are sound such a risk must be comparatively small, and the above case certainly seems to justify the operator in subjecting the patient to such a risk rather than add an inevitable empyema to a case already sufficiently serious.

Case of Extra-uterine Gestation: Diagnosis of Appendicitis.

By W. T. STORRS, M.R.C.S.



B., æt. 23, admitted into President Ward, under the care of Mr. Harrison Cripps, on August 15th.

History of present condition.—Three weeks ago patient was suddenly seized with severe pain, referred to the lower half of the abdomen, and not localised to one side more than the other.

On the second day of her illness she felt sick, and vomited once. Pain localised to the right iliac fossa. A doctor was called in, who told her she was suffering from "inflammation of the bowel." She was in bed seven days, and up to the time of admission had never been entirely free from abdominal pain. Bowels constipated.

Past history.—Always healthy. Always regular in menstrual periods up to the last two months; but since then she has had hæmorrhagic discharge every fortnight. This was found out subsequent to operation. Two previous pregnancies, both normal. Last confinement about fourteen months ago.

Present condition.—Patient does not look ill, and does not complain of pain. Temp. 99.2°, pulse 104. Abdomen not generally distended, but some obvious fulness in the right iliac fossa. In the right iliac fossa there can be felt a firm, well-defined mass; it is smooth, and manipulation causes very slight pain. Percussion note dull over the mass. It extends upwards above the crest of the ilium towards the loin, and can be traced downwards into the pelvis.

Per vaginam.—Os uteri in normal position; no distinct mass can be felt, but there is some tenderness on examination towards the right.

Per rectum.—On the right and somewhat in front of the rectal wall there can be felt a soft swelling. Examination caused considerable amount of pain.

Diagnosis.—Abscess, probably in connection with the appendix.

September 16th.—Patient having been anaesthetised, Mr. Cripps made an incision over the swelling about four inches in length. The abdomen having been opened, the cæcum, with a healthy appendix, and the ascending colon were found pushed forwards by a distended mesocolon. The latter was then incised, and a large quantity of dark blood-clot evacuated. The hand was then introduced into the

cavity left by the removal of the clot, and passed down into the pelvis to the base of the broad ligament. The hand was then withdrawn, inserted into the peritoneal cavity, and the pelvis examined.

A swelling about the size of a pigeon's egg was found occupying the middle third of the free border of the right broad ligament. This was brought into the wound. The broad ligament was then ligatured on each side of the swelling, and the latter then removed. The incision in the mesocolon was sewn up, and the abdominal cavity closed in the usual way.

The patient made an uninterrupted recovery.

The case is, of course, an ordinary one of extra-uterine gestation, with subsequent hæmorrhage into the broad ligament. The hæmorrhage must, however, have been considerable, and one would have expected a secondary rupture into the abdominal cavity, rather than the blood should have forced its way to the base of the broad ligament, and so far up the mesocolon.

Notes.

DR. A. E. GARROD will deliver the Bradshaw Lecture before the Royal College of Physicians on Tuesday, November 6th, at 5 o'clock. Subject: "The Urinary Pigments in their Pathological Aspects."

WE would draw the attention of all members of the Amalgamated Clubs to the Annual Dinner, which will take place on Tuesday, November 13th. Particulars are given upon the printed slip enclosed in this number of the JOURNAL. We trust a better show of members will be made this year than last. It was for this purpose that the time of the dinner has been changed from summer to autumn, when all new members might turn up.

ON the occasion of the Association football match between Bart's and Hastings on Wednesday, November 14th, at Hastings, the Eighth Annual Tea and Smoking Concert will be held at the Castle Hotel from 5 till 7.40, the "Old Bart's Doctors" being the hosts, and Mr. C. B. Gabb occupying the chair.

WE are asked to announce that the British Medical Temperance Association will hold the Annual Breakfast meeting at the Cannon Street Hotel, on November 9th, at 8.30 a.m. Professor Sims Woodhead will preside, and speakers will include Mr. Pearce Gould and Mrs. Scharlieb. Tickets may be obtained from the Hon. Sec., Dr. Ridge, Enfield, Middlesex.

LAST month we accidentally omitted the name of M. D. Wood in the list of those who have taken the degree of M.D. at Durham University.

DR. GILBERT SMITH has been awarded the medal for the best M.D. thesis at the University of Durham.

MR. J. E. S. FRASER has been appointed Demonstrator of Anatomy at St. George's Hospital Medical School.

IN the *Gazette* of August 4th we notice the following:—
"Royal Horse Guards—Surgeon-Capt. H. Rayner, M.B., to be Surgeon-Major in succession to Surgeon-Lieut.-Col. J. S. Forrester, deceased. Dated June 19th, 1900."

MR. J. A. NIXON has been elected a President of the Abernethian Society *vice* Mr. E. C. Talbot.

IT is hoped that the thirty-sixth volume of the St. Bartholomew's Hospital *Reports* will be issued to subscribers before the end of the year. It will contain articles of unusual interest: memoirs of Sir James Paget and Sir Richard Thorne Thorne; plague experiences by Dr. Sandiland; a series of cases of volvulus by Captain Bird, I.M.S., and papers by various members of the staff.

STUDENTS and members of the Junior Staff and old Bart's men who wish their names to appear in the printed list of subscribers should give notice to Mr. P. F. Madden at once.

WE have already called attention to the meagre support which the *Reports* receive from the members of the Junior Staff and others, in the hope that many may still subscribe to the maintenance of a series whose value is well known throughout the world.

WE notice that Mr. E. C. Fincham, F.R.P.S., has three charming pictures hung at the Royal Photographic Society's exhibition this year. Her Majesty recently honoured Mr. Fincham by accepting, in a very cordial letter through her secretary, three snapshots taken by him in connection with the cutting of the commemorative inscription on the granite blocks at the west front of St. Paul's.

THE Hon. Sec. of the Musical Society, Mr. J. A. Nixon, would be very glad to hear of, or see, any gentlemen connected with the Hospital who have musical interests, and who would practise in the orchestra for the forthcoming Christmas entertainment.

MISS ROLLESTON (late Sister Elizabeth), on her return to England, has pointed out a couple of errors in our reproduction of her interesting South African letter in the July number of the JOURNAL. We called a "quiet time" a "quaint time," and spoke of our contributor as being the "highest" instead of the "night" superintendent.

OWING to want of space this month we are compelled to hold over several reviews of books recently received,

Calendar.

November, 1900.

- Nov. 1.—Abernethian Society, 8 p.m., Mr. F. A. Bainbridge, "The Relation of the Tissues to Lymph Formation"
- " 2.—Sir T. Lauder Brunton's Clinic.
Dr. Hensley and Mr. Butlin's duty.
- " 3.—Association F. C. v. Old Cranleighans at Winchmore Hill.
Rugby F. C. v. Rosslyn Park at Richmond.
Hockey Club v. West Herts at Watford.
- " 6.—Sir T. Lauder Brunton and Mr. Walsham's duty.
- " 7.—Mr. Langton's Clinic.
Rugby F. C. v. R.I.E.C. at Cooper's Hill.
- " 8.—Abernethian Society, 8 p.m., Mr. H. J. Paterson, F.R.C.S., "Some Observations on Syphilis."
- " 9.—Dr. Norman Moore's Clinic.
Dr. Church and Mr. Willett's duty.
- " 10.—Association F. C. v. Old Chalmleians at Walthamstow.
Rugby F. C. v. Catford Bridge at Catford.
Hockey Club v. Eastbourne at Eastbourne.
- " 13.—Amalgamated Club Dinner, 7.15 p.m., at Café Monico.
Dr. Gee and Mr. Langton's duty.
- " 14.—Mr. Butlin's Clinic.
Association F. C. v. Hastings and St. Leonards at Hastings.
Hockey Club v. R.M.A. at Woolwich.
- " 15.—Abernethian Society at 8 p.m., Mr. H. S. Everington, M.B., "Some Points in the Management of Sick Children."
- " 16.—Dr. Gee's Clinic.
Sir Dyce Duckworth and Mr. Marsh's duty.
- " 17.—Association F. C. v. West Kent at Chislehurst.
Rugby F. C. v. Portsmouth at Portsmouth.
Hockey Club v. Ealing at Richmond.
- " 20.—Dr. Hensley and Mr. Butlin's duty.
- " 21.—Mr. Butlin's Clinic.
Association F. C. v. London Hospital (League Match) at Lower Edmonton.
- " 22.—Abernethian Society at 8 p.m., Dr. Tooth. "Lantern Views of South Africa."
- " 23.—Sir T. Lauder Brunton and Mr. Walsham's duty.
Sir Dyce Duckworth's Clinic.
- " 24.—Association F. C. v. Reigate at Reigate.
Rugby F. C. v. Portsmouth at Portsmouth.
Hockey Club v. Epping at Epping.
- " 27.—Dr. Church and Mr. Willett's duty.
- " 28.—Mr. Walsham's Clinic.
Association F. C. v. London Hospital (League Match) at Winchmore Hill.
Rugby F. C. v. Old Paulines at Winchmore Hill.
- " 29.—Abernethian Society, 8 p.m., Mr. Langdon Brown, M.B.
- " 30.—Dr. Hensley's Clinic.
Dr. Gee and Mr. Langton's duty.
- Dec. 1.—Association F. C. v. Old Chalmleians at Winchmore Hill.
Rugby F. C. v. Old Leysians at Wembley Park.
Hockey Club v. Crystal Palace at Crystal Palace.

Abernethian Society.

THE inaugural meeting of the session 1900-1901 was held in the Anatomical Theatre on October 11th. There was a very large attendance of members and their friends, as well as a large number of the nursing staff. We were pleased to notice a fair number of ladies among the visitors. The attendance was so large that the main portion of the theatre was insufficient to accommodate all, and many had to find seats in the gallery.

Mr. BOWLBY had consented to read a paper entitled "Reminiscences of the War in South Africa." This being, as it were, his first public appearance in the Hospital since his return from South Africa, his entry was the signal for an outburst of enthusiastic

cheering. After full vent had been given to this, the President (Mr. Gask) rose, and saying that it was unnecessary for him to introduce Mr. Bowlby, called on him to read his paper. The paper, which is published in this issue of the JOURNAL, was listened to with great interest by all, the tributes to the bravery and endurance of the British troops meeting with special applause.

At the conclusion of the paper, Sir THOMAS SMITH said he had been greatly interested in Mr. Bowlby's remarks, and felt there was so much instruction in the paper that he felt competent to rule an army. We had all missed Mr. Bowlby during his absence and were glad to have him back, and it gave him great pleasure to propose a vote of thanks to Mr. Bowlby.

Mr. BERRY said that he had had much pleasure in listening to Mr. Bowlby's admirable, amusing, and instructive address. He referred to Mr. Bowlby's foresight in taking a consulting physician, and to the excellent work done by the Portland Hospital. He considered it a privilege to second the vote of thanks.

The vote of thanks was accorded enthusiastic support.

Mr. BOWLBY, in reply, said that he felt at home here, and that after listening to the remarks of Sir Thomas Smith and Mr. Berry, he had come to the conclusion that he was a very wise man, especially in taking out Dr. Tooth. He said that Dr. Tooth had been a great success, not only as a physician, but as an X-ray specialist, and, indeed, in anything he undertook.

Mr. Wallace had also been splendid as a colleague and assistant, and Mr. Calverley had been most useful in any post he had been called on to fill.

Surgeon-Major Kilkelly, who represented the R.A.M.C. in the Portland Hospital, was a most capable officer, and had helped them in every way.

Before he sat down he would like to thank those present for their very cordial reception that evening.

After Mr. Bowlby's reply the meeting was adjourned, but there was such a vigorous call for a speech from Dr. Tooth that he eventually rose and made a few remarks.

He said that he had been in South Africa and thought that he had seen a great deal, but felt that either this could not be so, or that he had missed a great deal, since listening to Mr. Bowlby's paper. Of course he did not mean that Mr. Bowlby had drawn on his imagination (laughter), but that he was surprised at the amount Mr. Bowlby had observed. He had noticed out there that Mr. Bowlby was always writing in the evenings when others were trying to warm themselves over a paraffin stove, and wondered at it. He thought that these must have been notes of things observed and heard during the day, and that the paper we had heard this evening was the outcome of the notes. They had all kept diaries, or begun to, but he was afraid that some of them had got sadly behind. He referred to the extreme cold at night and the hardships caused to the novel reader from this cause.

The "camera fiend" had been rampant, and it was almost impossible to leave one's quarters without hearing the click of a camera shutter. In self-defence he had joined the ranks of the "fiends," and had collected a number of photographs, which were being converted into lantern slides, and which he would be glad to show at a meeting of the Abernethian Society if a night for this could be arranged.

At the end of his remarks he was loudly applauded, and a movement was made to the library, where refreshments were partaken of.

At a Special General Meeting held on October 4th, Mr. Gask (President) in the chair, the alterations in the rules suggested by the special sub-committee appointed in March last were considered and discussed. Messrs. Maxwell and Niall, two members of the sub-committee, were present, and set forth the reasons which guided the committee in making each of the proposed alterations. The sub-committee were appointed to simplify the rules as much as possible, and to bring them up to date, several alterations being necessitated by the relations at present existing between the Society and the Amalgamated Clubs. Two important changes in the rules were made, the first, by which only those members who have attended at least three ordinary meetings during the preceding year are allowed to take part in the election of officers; the second, that by special invitation the Committee of the Society may invite gentlemen who are not members to read papers before the Society. The other changes made come under the category of (1) changes made to simplify the rules, or (2) changes made to meet the existing relationship of the Society to the Amalgamated Clubs.

The Second General Meeting of the Society was held on October 18th, Mr. Gask (President) in the chair. Dr. W. H. Hamer read a paper on "Casual Coincidences in Medical Statistics." He began

by pointing out that in many cases in which particular notice is directed to some sequence of events, no importance would be attributed to the phenomena if the chances of their occurrence under ordinary circumstances were taken into account, *e.g.* the apparent hereditary influence in the transmission of cancer could partly be explained simply by the fulfilled chances of its occurrence in members of the family affected by the disease. As an example of what remarkable results may be obtained by failing to estimate at each new departure the chances of a particular occurrence, he took the question of "The Third Generation of Londoners," stating that from the almost impossibility of tracing the three generations, it might be assumed that the inhabitants of the slums were on their way to racial extinction; but that this extinction is only apparent is readily seen when the chances of any particular occurrence, such as the removal of the inhabitants, demolition of the slum area, etc., are fully taken into consideration. The probability of the existence of cancer and phthisis houses, of the transmission of diseases such as diphtheria by drain infection, and of the infection of healthy children by convalescents returning from fever hospitals, was also referred to, and the possibilities of these occurring as casual coincidences discussed. In conclusion, Dr. Hamer pointed out that it was, of course, as great a mistake to refer every class of coincidence to mere chance as it is to neglect the element of probability altogether.

Amalgamated Clubs.

RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB.

President.—A. A. Bowlby, Esq., F.R.C.S.
Vice-Presidents.—J. S. Sloane, Esq., F.R.C.S.; W. F. Bennett, Esq., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.; A. J. W. Wells, Esq., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.; H. C. Adams, Esq., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.
Captain 1st XV.—A. O'Neill.
Vice-Captain.—H. T. Minden Wilson.
Hon. Secretary.—H. T. Minden Wilson.
Assist. Hon. Secretary.—D. M. Stone.
Captain 2nd XV.—W. H. Scott.
Committee.—J. M. Plews, F. Harvey, W. H. Hamilton, L. R. Tosswill, J. B. Gillies, G. S. Ellett, A. R. Neligan, B. N. Ash.

PROSPECTS FOR 1900—1901.

The prospects for the coming season look very rosy, H. C. Adams, last year's Captain, being the only man out of his year. The trial game, however, supplied very little new blood, especially in the way of outsiders, who were chiefly needed. There is, however, more keenness this season, and with the nucleus of last year's team to start with, it looks like being a good season. In our first match, with Sandhurst, the forwards completely outmatched the embryonic generals, while some of the outsiders showed great promise.

In the next match, against Park House, the team gave a very disappointing performance, the forwards not combining till the last twenty minutes, while several opportunities of scoring were lost by the outsiders.

Of our prospective opponents in the Cup Ties, St. Mary's, St. Thomas's, and London Hospitals have begun the season badly, while Guy's alone have started with a win.

A. O'Neill, this year's Captain, and L. R. Tosswill both distinguished themselves in the Devon County trial match, O'Neill being chosen, while Tosswill is a reserve.

E. S. Marshall and W. H. Hamilton played in the Middlesex Colts' match, while A. R. Neligan was playing in the Surrey trial game.

The "A" team look like having a very successful season, as there is more talent to choose from, and although they started with a bad beating, we had only a very scratch side; but with a full side now have been doing very well, and have a very good card of fixtures to work through.

BART'S v. SANDHURST R.M.C.

O'Neill, winning the toss, elected to play with the wind. At once it was seen that the home pack were no match for their heavier opponents, and the ball was soon worked into their quarters, where,

after a forward rush and a lot of fumbling, Wilson fell on the ball, O'Neill securing the major points. Play was still kept among the forwards, and the whistle sounded for half time.

Then, after starting, the Sandhurst three-quarters, intercepting a wild pass, scored, the kick failing. Then T. O'Neill, receiving the ball crossed the R.M.C. line, A. O'Neill again converting. Only once after this did Sandhurst look like scoring, but the ball was soon worked back into their twenty-five, and the game ended in a win for the Hospital by 2 goals (10 points) to 1 try (3 points). The following represented the Hospital:

St. Bart's.—E. S. Marshall (back); J. B. Gillies, H. W. James, J. Corbin, T. O'Neill (three-quarters); W. H. Hamilton, D. M. Stone (halves); A. O'Neill, L. R. Tosswill, H. T. Wilson, F. Harvey, H. E. Stanger-Leathes, E. C. Hodgson, T. Bates, H. E. Graham (forwards).

ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL CLUB.

President.—W. H. H. Jessop, Esq., F.R.C.S.
Captain.—V. G. Ward.
Secretary.—C. W. O'Brien.
Captain and Secretary 2nd XI.—J. R. R. Twist.
Committee.—H. N. Marrett, W. S. Nealor, L. Orton, C. H. Fernie, G. W. Miller.

PROSPECTS FOR SEASON 1900—1901.

The prospects for this season of the Association Football Club are, perhaps, not quite so bad as they seemed at first.

In goal we are just as well off as we have been for the last two or three seasons, as we still have the services of our tried man, H. Butcher.

At back we recently experienced a great loss in T. H. Fowks' departure from the Hospital, but we are able to fill his place with a very capable substitute in the person of W. S. Nealor. L. Orton, a tower of strength in himself, still has another year to assist us.

When we come to the half-back line we find our great weakness. Last year we lost our best halves, and they have not been replaced by any very useful Freshmen. Still we have hopes of seeing some improvement in this department as the season advances.

In the forward line we still have the services of three of last year's team; and, as two or three very useful Freshmen have come up, we ought, if anything, to be stronger forward than we were last year.

Taken on the whole, we think the team is quite as good, if not better, than last year's, and at all events quite up to the average; and we think, when we get going properly, we ought at the end of the season to occupy a not unenviable position in the newly-established Inter-hospital League; and if we cannot give the Hospital Cup a place of honour on our library table, we shall give a *quantum* of trouble to those who do ultimately carry off the trophy to form one of the sights of their scholastic establishment.

ST. BART'S v. ST. MARY'S.

This match was played on October 10th at Winchmore Hill, under the auspices of the newly-formed Inter-hospital League, and ended in an easy victory for Bart's by 5 to 0.

In the first half, playing towards the Pavilion end, Ward scored. This was all the scoring done, and the teams crossed over with the score—Bart's, 1; Mary's, 0.

In the second half Bart's had all the best of the play, and Ward added three more goals, and Kilby added the fifth, and the whistle finally sounded, leaving the Bart's men winners, as above stated. For St. Mary's B. W. Gonin played a fine game, and had it not been for him, Bart's men would have scored a great deal heavier. Team: H. Butcher (goal); L. Orton, W. S. Nealor (backs); G. W. Miller, V. C. Upton, A. N. Other (half-backs); J. A. Kilby, R. C. Berryman, C. O'Brien, V. G. Ward, and Bott (forwards).

ST. BART'S v. TUNBRIDGE WELLS.

These teams met at Tunbridge Wells on Saturday, October 20th. St. Bart's won the toss, and elected to play with the wind. The first half was very evenly contested, both goals being hotly attacked; but the defence prevailed, and the whistle sounded for half-time with the score-sheet blank.

The second half opened with some very fast play by both sides, and Tunbridge Wells had hard luck in not scoring. Butcher, in

goal for Bart.'s, made some very fine saves. After about ten minutes' play some good combination between the visitors' outside forwards enabled them through O'Brien to score. Two more goals quickly followed by Ward, and just before the call of time Berryman added a fifth, and the whistle sounded, leaving Bart.'s winners by 4 to 0. For Tunbridge Wells Wace and B. Murdock played well. Team:

H. H. Butcher (goal); L. Orton, W. S. Nealon (backs); V. C. Upton, J. W. Godsell, N. E. Waterfield (half-backs); F. W. Jackson, R. C. Berryman, C. O'Brien, V. G. Ward, and G. W. Miller (forwards).

HOCKEY.

President.—Dr. H. Morley Fletcher.

Captain.—F. H. M. A. Beckett.

Secretary.—A. Hallowes.

Committee.—L. H. Furber, H. B. Hill, E. T. Glenney, J. A. Nixon, A. H. Pollock.

ST. BART.'S v. ENFIELD.

Played at Enfield on October 6th, the Hospital winning by 4 to nil. This being our first match of the season, the game was somewhat of a scrambling nature. At half-time the score was 1 goal (Nixon) to nil. Afterwards the Hospital did better, goals being scored by Beckett, Bell, and Hallowes. Team:

L. E. Dickson (goal); L. G. Furber, L. Gray (backs); A. K. H. Pollock, A. H. Muirhead, W. E. Fowler (half-backs); A. Hallowes, J. A. Nixon, F. M. Beckett, K. D. Bell, and H. Gray (forwards).

* ST. BART.'S v. CRYSTAL PALACE 1ST.

This match was played at Winchmore Hill on October 13th, and resulted in a win for the Palace by 5 to 1. The early stages of the game went in favour of the home side, but the Palace soon began to press, and at half-time were leading by 3 to nil.

Soon after play was resumed Nixon, unfortunately, had to leave the field. The play was very fast throughout, but the Palace put on 2 more goals to 1 (Hallowes). Team:

L. E. Dickson (goal); L. G. Furber, W. E. Fowler (backs); A. K. Pollock, T. A. Mayo, H. B. Hill (half-backs); A. Hallowes, J. A. Nixon, F. M. Beckett, R. M. im Thurn, and H. Gray (forwards).

ST. BART.'S v. ROYAL ARTILLERY.

Played at Woolwich on Wednesday, October 17th, and after a close and exciting game the Hospital were able to claim a victory by 2 to 1. The game was of a very even character for the first ten minutes, in which time the R.A. had scored a goal; but Beckett soon equalised by a good shot, and before half-time Hallowes had also added another goal.

After half-time, although having a slight advantage, due to the sloping ground, Bart.'s could not score again, and each goal was attacked in turn; but nothing being scored, the game ended in our favour by 2 to 1. Team:

L. E. Dickson, W. E. Fowler, L. G. Furber, H. B. Hill, L. Murphy, A. K. Pollock, N. Holbrooke, A. Hallowes, F. M. Beckett, R. M. im Thurn, and H. Gray.

ST. BART.'S v. KENSINGTON.

This match was played on October 20th at Wormwood Scrubs, and after a fast game the Hospital won by 3 to 1. Soon after the start Beckett scored for the Hospital, and the visitors, keeping the ball in the Kensington "25," soon added another goal (Beckett).

On changing ends the Hospital did nearly all the pressing, but only 1 goal was scored (by Bull). Owing to the unevenness of the ground the shooting was erratic. Team:

L. E. Dickson, L. G. Furber, W. E. Fowler, L. Murphy, A. K. Pollock, H. B. Hill, A. Hallowes, J. A. Nixon, G. N. Bull, and H. Gray.

UNITED HOSPITALS SWIMMING CLUB.

WATER POLO.

The last match of the season was played at St. George's Baths, Buckingham Palace Road, on July 10th, and resulted in a win for Oxford University. The Hospitals were weakened by the absence of H. Graham Marshall (Capt. England and Surrey County) and W. H. G. Thorne.

The following players have represented their hospitals this year.

V. B. Nesfield (Capt.) St. Mary's (U.H.S.C.)	...	6 matches.
S. B. Scott, St. Bart.'s	"	1 match.
A. H. Bloxsome, St. Bart.'s	"	6 matches.
Graham Marshall, Guy's	"	1 match.
R. Newby-Smith, London	"	1 "
G. Teddon, St. George's	"	2 matches.
W. H. G. Thorne, St. Bart.'s	"	5 "
C. Dix, St. Bart.'s	"	5 "
F. Gorge, Guy's	"	1 match.
H. Bacon, Guy's	"	1 "
M. B. Scott, St. Bart.'s	"	2 matches.
O. Levers, St. Mary's	"	4 "
D. M. Stone, St. Bart.'s	"	1 match.
F. Child, St. Thomas's	"	1 "

W. H. G. Thorne was awarded the United Hospital colours this season.

INTER-HOSPITAL CUP.—FINAL TIE.

ST. BART.'S v. ST. MARY'S.

On Monday, October 8th, the Final Cup Tie was played off at Ealing, before a very large attendance. At times the play was somewhat rough, and the whistle was largely in evidence, especially in the first half. O. Levers, for St. Mary's, scored the first point with a neatly placed corner shot. On return of the ball to water, play was again carried into the Bart.'s half, C. Dix clearing several shots successfully. Sides were now changed with St. Mary's leading by one goal to nil.

In the second half play was for a time even. By a short pass from Lees, A. H. Bloxsome got in, and dribbling up, passed to Stone, who failed to score. The Bart.'s forwards continued to press, and the game became exceedingly fast; several shots were sent in, but all were cleared. From a foul given against Webster, who had left goal to tackle Douglas, the latter was able to pass to Stone, who notched a goal for Bart.'s.

No more scoring was effected by either side, and the match resulted in a draw of one goal each. The teams were:

St. Bart.'s (holders).—C. Dix (goal); M. B. Scott, L. B. Scott (Capt.) (backs) U.H.S.C.; A. H. Bloxsome (half-back) U.H.S.C.; D. M. Stone, K. J. Watkins, and R. I. Douglas (forwards). W. H. G. Thorne, U.H.S.C., was unable to play.

St. Mary's.—A. Webster (goal); H. Clarke and H. E. Wellington (backs); V. B. Nesfield (Capt.) (half-back) U.H.S.C.; G. H. Richard, H. C. Lees, and O. Levers (forwards).

THE HEAR.

THAT Sir Thomas Lauder Brunton intends shortly to resign his Lectureship in Materia Medica and Therapeutics.

THAT in future all our Assistant Demonstrators, with the exception of those who fill posts open to unqualified men, will take the title of Junior Demonstrators. This seems a step in the right direction.

THAT the School Committee has acceded to the request of the Amalgamated Clubs, and has placed the Smoking Room at the disposal of the Boxing Club. We welcome anything which tends to keep our club meetings near home.

The Rahere Lodge, No. 2546.

AN ordinary meeting of the Rahere Lodge, No. 2546, was held at Frascati's Restaurant, Oxford Street, W., on Tuesday, October 9th last, W. Bro. Walter Gripper, M.B., being in the chair. Bro. W. E. Bennett, F.R.C.S., was raised to the degree of Master Mason, and Mr. Richard Henslow Wellington, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., was initiated into Freemasonry. Subsequently some thirty of the brethren dined together.

New Productions.

MESSRS. EDWARD COOK AND CO. have sent us several samples of their soaps. After using them, both for ordinary purposes and in some cases of septic skin affections, we can confidently recommend them. The special antiseptic soap preparation should command a considerable popularity. Messrs. Cook also supply a very pleasant tooth soap, which we find on good authority well fulfils the essentials required of such a preparation.

Examinations.

CONJOINT BOARD.

First Examination.—Chemistry.—H. W. W. Bund, W. R. Collingridge, C. A. Fernie, W. de M. Hill, G. P. Jones, F. M. P. Rice. *Practical Pharmacy.*—E. W. Alment, J. A. Bell. *Biology.*—W. S. Nealor.

Second Examination.—Anatomy and Physiology.—A. J. L. Speechly, W. R. Square, H. E. Scoones, E. Leverton-Spry, L. V. Thurston, N. M. Wilson, A. C. Brown, C. F. Nicholas, L. A. Arnould, R. I. Douglas, J. G. Ingonville, A. C. A. Van Buren.

Appointments.

BAISS, LI. A., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., Surgeon R.N., appointed to H.M.S. "Woodcock," China Station.

BIGG, R., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., appointed Ship's Surgeon to the telegraph ship "Dacia."

CLARKE, HUNTLEY, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., appointed Junior House Surgeon to the Shrewsbury Infirmary.

DOUGLAS, W. C., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., appointed Surgeon to the ss. "Titan."

FRASER, J. E. S., F.R.C.S.Eng., appointed Demonstrator of Anatomy at St. George's Hospital Medical School.

HARRIS, H. G., M.B., B.S.Durham, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., appointed House Surgeon to the Paddington Green Children's Hospital.

HEY, S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., appointed Resident Medical Officer to the City Road Chest Hospital.

HOBBS, G. C., L.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.Edin., L.F.P.S.Glas., appointed House Surgeon to the Hampstead Hospital.

PARKER, H. F., M.B., B.C., appointed House Physician to the Wolverhampton General Hospital.

PENNEFATHER, C. M., M.B., B.S.Durham, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., appointed Junior House Surgeon to the Metropolitan Hospital.

POLLARD, S., M.B., B.C., appointed Senior House Physician at the Metropolitan Hospital.

RICHARDS, W. J., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., appointed Assistant Medical Officer to the Middlesex County Asylum, Tooting.

ROSS, P. H., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., appointed Surgeon to the ss. "Wordsworth."

SANGER, F., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., appointed Senior House Surgeon at the Metropolitan Hospital.

SODEN, Arnold E., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., appointed Surgeon to P. & O. S. N. Company's ss. "Chusan."

THORNLEY, L., M.B.Lond., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., appointed Junior House Physician at the Metropolitan Hospital.

New Addresses.

MIDELTON, W. J., King's Villa, Talbot Road, Winton, Bourne-mouth.

WELBURN, C. M., Aylsham, Norfolk.

WHARRY, ROBERT, 7, Cambridge Gate, Regent's Park, W.

Births.

DRURY.—On October 21st, at Grahamstown, South Africa, the wife of Edward Guy Dru Drury, M.D., B.S.Lond., of a son. (*By cable.*)

MASTERMAN.—On Sept. 12th, at Jerusalem, the wife of E. W. G. Masterman, F.R.C.S., F.R.G.S., D.P.H.Cantab., of a daughter.

SEGUNDO.—On October 15th, at 6, Brook Street, Hanover Square, the wife of C. S. de Segundo, M.D., B.S.Lond., of a son.

Marriages.

COLEMAN—STEPHENS.—On October 24th, at the Church of the Ascension, Balham Hill, S.W., by the Rev. W. Douglas Morrison, LL.D., uncle of the bridegroom, assisted by the Rev. H. Curtis, M.A. (Vicar), and the Rev. A. W. Hooper, M.A., Maurice Were Coleman, M.B., of Reading, eldest son of Alfred Coleman, F.R.C.S., of Tooting Common, to Edith Annie Bowring, only daughter of Edward Bowring Stephens, of Upper Tooting, S.W.

CURRIE—CAVENDISH.—On October 13th, at St. John the Baptist Church, Holland Road, Kensington, by the Rev. L. B. Currie, M.A. (brother of the bridegroom), assisted by the Rev. W. C. Cluff, M.A., and the Rev. W. M. Spencer (Vicar of the parish), John Currie, M.D., of Coleford, Gloucestershire, eldest son of the late Dr. Currie, of Taunton, to Annie, eldest daughter of Harry Cavendish, of 58, Addison Gardens, W.

Death.

ECCLLES.—On October 22nd, suddenly, at 23, Hertford Street, Mayfair, W., Arthur Symons Eccles, M.B., C.M., in his forty-sixth year.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.—*London Hospital Gazette, St. Mary's Hospital Gazette, The Nursing Record, The Nurses' Journal, The Stethoscope, St. Thomas's Hospital Gazette, Guy's Hospital Gazette, Charing Cross Hospital Gazette, Middlesex Hospital Gazette, The Broadway, St. George's Hospital Gazette, The Polyclinic, The Medical Review, The Practitioner, University College Magazine, The Student, The Hospital, Transactions of the Students' Society of Dental Hospital, The Therapist, The Medical Magazine, University College of Wales Magazine, Magazine of the London School of Medicine for Women, Giornale della Reale Società Italiana d'Igiene, L'Echo Médicale du Nord.*